

Appl. No. 10/697,994
Response dated: March 2, 2005
Reply to Office Action of December 2, 2004

Attorney Docket No. 81788.0260
Customer No.: 26021

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action dated December 2, 2005. Claims 1-18 are pending in the application. Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the courtesies extended with respect to the interview conducted in this application on March 1, 2005. Applicant believes that agreement was reached in the interview that the outstanding rejection should be withdrawn.

The interview discussed the cited references and specifically the primary cited Hideyuki reference. The outstanding Office Action reads region 7 of the Hideyuki reference on the second-conductivity type third semiconductor region defined in claim 1 as follows:

"a second-conductivity-type third semiconductor region formed in said first semiconductor layer from the surface of said first semiconductor layer to the surface of said insulating layer with a predetermined distance between said second and third semiconductor regions, and having a second impurity concentration."

As discussed in the interview, region 7 of the Hideyuki reference does not extend from the surface of the first semiconductor layer to the surface of the insulating layer. Rather, region 7 of the Hideyuki reference does not reach the surface of the insulating layer. None of the references of record suggest altering the extent of region 7. As such the cited art does not meet the limitation of claim 1 quoted above.

Applicant consequently submits that the pending claims distinguish over the art of record. Reexamination and reconsideration are respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application, as amended, are requested.

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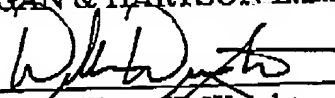
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If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at the Los Angeles, California telephone number (213) 337-6700 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-1314.

Respectfully submitted,
HOGAN & HARTSON L.L.P.

Date: March 2, 2005

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